

Delhi Milk Scheme Depots

†4567. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi Milk Scheme is considering to make its depots function full time;

(b) whether Government have taken any action in the matter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Delhi Milk Scheme has so far started 32 number of such depots.

Incentives to sugar exporters

†4568. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to give some incentives to sugar exporters;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in this regard so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) The Department of Food and Public Distribution, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution are providing the following incentives to the sugar exporters in order to boost the export of sugar:

- (i) The Sugar meant for export has been exempted from the levy obligation. This exemption, which was initially available for a period of six months, commencing from the 1st June, 2000, has been extended upto the 31st March, 2001.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (ii) The quantity of sugar exported for commercial exports is treated as advance free sale release to be adjusted after a period of 12 months from the date of release.
- (iii) The levy exemption on the quantity of sugar meant for commercial exports, if it cannot be availed by the sugar factory out of 1999-2000 seasons' production due to the completion of its levy obligation, may be availed by the sugar factory concerned, from the production in the ensuing sugar season.
- (iv) Duty Entitlement Passbook (DEPB) at the rate of 5% of the F.O.B. value of exports of sugar has been allowed.

Violation of food laws by foreign food importers

4569. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the findings of a study sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture and conducted by a consumer rights organisation indicated gross violation of several food laws by foreign food import;

(b) if so, the salient points highlighted in the study report;

(c) whether the study report has revealed helpness of India's consumers due to lack of infrastructure to process complaints and prompt redressal of grievances of consumers in respect of goods imported from abroad;

(d) the steps being taken to provide more consumer courts even in smaller towns; and

(e) the action taken by Government to remove shortcomings in existing laws to prevent such violations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) The study conducted at the instance of Department of Food Processing Industries by consumer right organization has highlighted some violations of Indian food laws.